

33 VI 849



Written By: Katie Clemons
(2026)

Well hello there reader!

I would like to take a moment here to tell you about a magnificent place that me and my love found back in 2019!

We live in these little apartments that really don't have the yard room for our little guy to run and play in. So, we decided to let Gran-Gran watch Little Man so Michael and I could venture out to find some place new for our family to enjoy. And that we did!

We ended up finding a wonderful field full of flowers surrounded by a woodline. We walked through the field and came upon a log. We sat down, took in the sights. We were on the edge of the field and atop a hill. It was a beautiful view! Down below, there was a creek that ran past the edge of the hill, a swamp full of cattails, and oh my goodness, butterflies everywhere! The rays of the sun coming through the trees, everything just glowed. A place you wouldn't want to leave.

As we were sitting there, taking it all in, I happened to look down at my feet and said "Babe, is this flint!?" He started picking it up, got up to look around, and BAM! He tripped over a big chunk of flint! That got him! We were out there for hours. Didn't even know that time had slipped by!

When we got home, Michael started thinking and researching and talking amongst himself... a couple days went by and he figured it out! He wanted to start looking around.

After a year of searching, he came to the conclusion that The Spot was a Native American Indian workshop/trading route! We began to dig deeper and deeper each day until eventually, we couldn't get past the clay! So many exciting experiences and awesome Indian Artifacts were re-discovered!

But now that I have your attention.....

Come with us on our journey so we can teach you some important facts about "THE SPOT"!!!

We want to give special thanks to:

Archaeologist, Dr. Jonathan (JEB) E. Bowen, PhD.

For standing beside our family, since the beginning, and guiding us in the right direction, to learn and to teach about The Spot.

Gary Argabright

For sharing all of his knowledge and supporting our family.

Clarke - May Museum

For allowing us to be a part of their Community.

Roger (Cat) Compston

For sharing his knowledge with us as he got us to start an amazing journey.

We wish he could've been there through it all.

Rest Easy, Friend.

Stephen Reed

For all of his support and allowing us to continue our excavation on his property.

The Team That Endured Hours At The Spot Providing Much Effort In The Work, Knowledge, And Teachings.

The Spot Would Not Have Been Re-Discovered Without The Help Of This Team

Michael Downard, Tyler Klein, Katie Clemons,
Michael X. Downard, Skyler Coleman, and Zinga

Special Thanks For The Opportunity To Teach About The Spot Goes To:

Clarke - May Museum / Pickaway County Historical Society 162 W. Union St. Circleville, OH. 43113 (740) 474-1495	Herbert Wescott Memorial Library 120 N. Market St. McArthur, OH. 45651 (740) 596-5691
Lucy Webb Hayes Heritage Center 90 W. 6th Street Chillicothe, OH. 45601 (740) 775-5829	Ross County Historical Society 45 W. 5th St. Chillicothe, OH. 45601 (740) 772-1936

If you would like to learn more about The Spot,
please keep your eyes open on these places and
their events and you may just see us there!!!!

LEARNING ABOUT NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

33 VI 849 is an Archaic Peoples site.

KEY ASPECTS OF THE ARCHAIC PEOPLES IN OHIO

The Archaic Peoples in Ohio were approximately from 9000 - 500 B.C.E.

During that time, Ohio was coming out of an Ice Age.

The Ancient Peoples had to go through a 7000 year adaptation.

In that time period, the Archaic Peoples split into Early, Middle, and Late Sub-Periods.

At the beginning of the Archaic Period, as the Paleo Period ended, the Ancient Peoples lived a Nomadic lifestyle, which meant they traveled frequently and survived by hunting only a couple types of wild game and relying on a few plant sources.

Flint knapping was used in large sources of many types of tools, including the atlatl.

The atlatl was a long spear they would have used to hunt the bigger, wild game.

During the climate shift, from Spruce Parkland to the start of the Deciduous Forest, the Archaic Peoples went from hunting big game (like Mammoths) to smaller game (like the White-Tailed Deer, Elk, and other mammals), nuts/seeds, and fish.

As the lifestyle changed, from Nomadic to Settled, the Ancient Peoples began building larger groups of Communities, changing their diets, and developing new tools.

Some Ground-Stone tools consist of axes, pestles, adzes, and celts.

These were used for woodworking and processing plant foods.

They became what are known as "Hunter-Gatherers".

Toward the end of the Late Archaic Period, trading began amongst other Cultures, which introduced pottery.

As the Archaic Time Period was coming to an end, the Adena Moundbuilders were being introduced, which was also followed by the Woodland Period, who were characterized by the construction of the Earthwork Mounds.

Step-By-Step Process To Make An Arrowhead

Step 1: Raw Material	
Step 2: Quarry Blank	
Step 3: Preform	

Step 4:
Arrowhead



Step 5:
Re-Sharpened Utilized Tool



ABOUT THE ATLATL



Many people believe that the atlatl was made by River Cane, due to it being hollow, large quantities of it, and the length it grows.

Since it is already hollow, you are capable of loading the darts easier and a lot faster.



Many of the darts were made from bone or an arrowhead.

The atlatl is believed to have been used since the Paleolithic Indians, which dates back to approximately 13000 years ago.

Atlatl throwing competitors believe they were lengthened at approximately 7-9 feet long, due to flight.



There are three different types of dart throwing sticks.

The round sticks can be made from bone and stick (#3) or just a stick with a weight (#2).

The dart throwing sticks were round until about 1500 years ago.

There was a dart throwing stick (#1) that was found in California, in a cave with baskets, that dates back to the Basket Makers, approximately 1500 years ago.

The Californian Basket Makers made their stick different; it was flat, not round (#1).

Some dart throwing sticks were made with weights (#1 and #2).

Weights are not for "weight", they were to counter-balance the atlatl by keeping the back of the dart shaft straight while throwing.



← Here is how they would have loaded the atlatl stick onto the dart throwing stick.



^ Here is the atlatl during the aim process.

Here is how the atlatl would have looked during the launch process.

→



Michael and Tyler Throwing The Atlatl



(Step 1: Load The Atlatl)



(Step 2: Aim For The Kill)



(Step 3: Throw!)

DEFINITIONS OF THE MATERIALS FOUND

- **BANDED SLATE**- refers to a distinctive, layered metamorphic rock prized for its alternating light and dark bands, commonly found as glacial erratics rather than in local bedrock.
- **CHERT**- a hard dense sedimentary rock made primarily of microscopic quartz crystals sometimes with amorphous silica or silica-replaced fossils.
- **FLINT**- a high quality, often colorful, and pure varieties of the same material as chert.
- **GRANITE**- a coarse-grained (phaneritic), intrusive igneous rock that forms deep underground from the solidification of silica-rich magma.
- **SANDSTONE**- a sedimentary rock primarily composed of sand-sized grains (mostly quartz) cemented together by minerals like silica, iron oxides, or calcite.

TYPES OF FLINT MATERIALS FOUND

- Flint Ridge (Vanport Flint and Vanport Chert)
- Paoli (also known as Paoli Chert or Carter Cave Chert)
- Upper Mercer
- Zaleski

Why Did The Native American Indians Choose This Specific Location?

This is a really good question... We have thought about why the Indians would have chosen this specific area as well! The more we explored this area; by walking the whole property, digging in various locations and examining the pieces we had found, and mapping all the surrounding locations, we came up with a hypothesis...

This location was used as a camp site, trade route, and workshop!

The Spot sits on a high, flat area right off of Elk Fork Creek, making it easy to access a food source for their camp, or to trade.

Elk was an abundant food source here.

Elk Fork Creek is a tributary (a stream that flows into a larger stream or other body of water) to Raccoon Creek, which from there leads into the Ohio River!

The Indians were able to travel by canoe, or on foot, from The Spot to the Ohio River to do some trading with the other Indians from West Virginia and Kentucky!

What does it mean...

33 VI 849

?????

It is the locality of The Spot!

33 represents the State.

VI represents the County.

849 determines the area often referring to a specific place.

Ohio. Vinton County. Stephen Reed's Property.

Map Of The Spot



(The picture above is the entire field of The Spot)



(The picture above is a close up of The Spot where we did most of the excavating)



(The above picture indicates the Big Dig we had done)

The white line that you see in the above picture is where the majority of the Artifacts were re-discovered. We call that the Big Dig or The Trench. It measured at approximately 55 feet long, five feet wide, and four feet deep! The biggest hole we dug!

FIELD WORK



(Michael as he begins the excavation of a new hole)

We learned during the excavation process, you begin with digging a small hole. Ours was usually a 12x12x12 inch hole. We called these holes Test Digs. As long as we found a piece of flint, we continued widening and deepening the hole. With no signs of flint, we moved to another location and started another Test Dig. We used smaller shovels to start. In the picture above, Michael is starting a new hole with a medium sized shovel. The handle is about three feet long and the head is only about four inches wide and five inches long. We learned that with the smaller shovels, you have a lesser chance to break an Artifact. We always dug slowly and always went through the dirt as we dug. No Artifact left behind!



(Tyler as he's removing the dirt that was already gone through)

After a Test Dig with signs of flint pieces, we always said to follow the flint! We would dig as long as we found flint. As you follow the flint trail, it's hard to say how big your hole will be. In the picture above, Tyler is removing the dirt that was already gone through. We always cut three inch thick slices with a garden shovel and then went through that piece of dirt. Once we had enough dirt thrown behind us, someone would volunteer to throw it onto the side pile. If a flint trail ended, we would continue to dig at least 12 - 15 more inches to verify the stop. To be completely honest, the back-filling is always awful! Thankfully for our kind property owner, he'd send someone out to push all the dirt back into the hole for us!

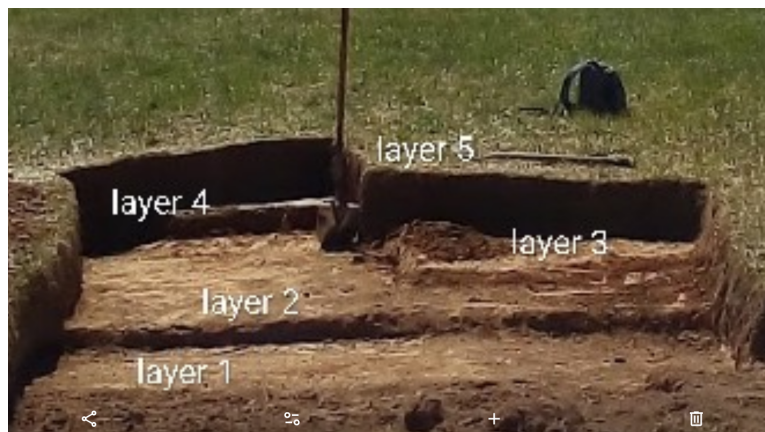


(This was the end of this hole)

When the flint trail ended with this hole, it was finalized at being approximately 15 feet long x 10 feet wide x 10 - 15 inches deep. As you can see, the left side reached a little longer than the right side and that is because of the flint trail ending. That's how we verified no more flint. The picture above shows the end of the excavation, right before the back-fill.



(The dimensions of the excavation hole when finished, before it was back-filled)



(The way we excavated using layers)

We discovered a system during the excavating that made going through the dirt a lot easier, so we didn't miss any flint pieces. The picture above shows the five layers we made for the process.

Layer 1	Layer 2	Layer 3	Layer 4	Layer 5
15 inch down	12 inch down	9 inch down	6 inch down	Top Soil

Other Photos Of Field Work



(Little Man surface hunting a flat field with Dr. Jonathan (JEB) E. Bowen while Mrs. Pam metal detects)



(Michael, Skyler, and Tyler continue to surface hunt the field while Little Man and Mrs. Pam are metal detecting)

Other Types Of Field Work



(Katie and Little Man studying the Artifacts found, zooming in with the microscope to see the type of knapping used)

IDENTIFICATION / CATALOG TABLE

All pieces found at 33 VI 849

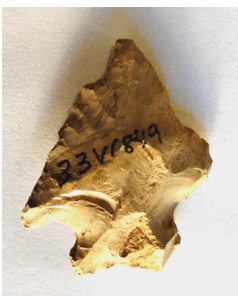
Archaic Time Period

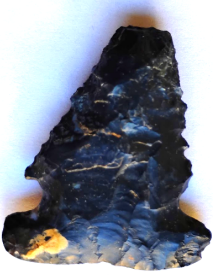
9000 - 500 B.C.E.

	<i>CULTURE</i>	<i>TYPE</i>	<i>MATERIAL</i>	<i>SIZE</i>
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton	Paoli Flint	3 cm
	Late Archaic 2200-1900 B.C.	Adena Robbins Point	Upper Mercer	5 cm

	Late Archaic 2200-1900 B.C.	Adena Stemmed Point	Upper Mercer	4.5 cm
	Early - Late Archaic 10000-7000 B.P.	Big Sandy	Upper Mercer	4.5 cm
	Late Archaic - Woodland 4000-1500 B.P.	Ashtabula	Upper Mercer	6 cm
	Late Archaic - Woodland 3000-1800 B.P.	Adena Vanishing Stem	Flint Ridge - Vanport	6 cm

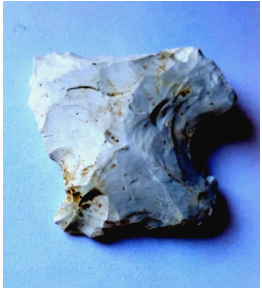
	Late Archaic - Woodland 3000-1200 B.P.	Adena Narrow Stem	Flint Ridge	5.5 cm
	Late Archaic - Woodland 3000-1800 B.P.	Adena Robbins	Flint Ridge - Chert	4.5 cm
	Late Archaic		Flint Ridge - Chert	3 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton	Flint Ridge	3 cm
	Late Archaic - Woodland 3000-1200 B.P.	Adena Narrow Stem	Flint Ridge	4 cm

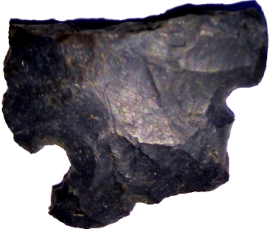
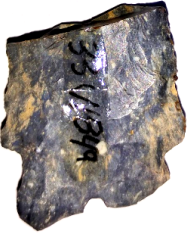
	Late Archaic - Woodland 3000-1200 B.P.	Adena Narrow Stem	Flint Ridge	3.5 cm
	Archaic - Mississippian 9000-400 B.P.	Perforator	Flint Ridge - Chert	3 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton	Flint Ridge	3.5 cm
	Late Archaic 5500-1500 B.C.	Side Notched	Flint Ridge	3.5 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton	Flint Ridge	4 cm

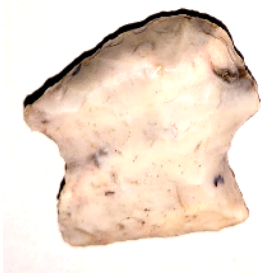
	Early-Middle Archaic 8000-5000 B.C.	Side Notched	Upper Mercer	3.5 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton	Zaleski	3 cm
	Late Archaic - Early Woodland 3000-500 B.C.	Stemmed Point		4 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-2000 B.C.	Stemmed Point	Flint Ridge - Chert	5 cm
	Late Archaic 2000-1000 B.C.	Expanded Base	Lower Mercer	5 cm

	Late Archaic 5000-1000 B.C.		Flint Ridge	4.5 cm
	Late Archaic - Woodland 500 B.C. - 200 A.D.	Adena Stemmed Point	Flint Ridge - Vanport	6 cm
	Late Archaic 5500-1500 B.C.	Side Notched	Flint Ridge - Chert	5.5 cm
	Late Archaic 1500-900 B.C.	Cogswell Contracting Stem Point	Upper Mercer	6 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-500 B.C.	Brewerton	Flint Ridge	3.5 cm

	Late Archaic		Flint Ridge	3.5 cm
	Early Archaic 7000 B.C.	Kirk Corner Notch Stemmed Point	Lower Mercer	3.5 cm
	Late Archaic 5500-1500 B.C.	Side Notched	Flint Ridge - Vanport	3.5 cm
	Late Archaic 5500-1500 B.C.	Side Notched	Upper Mercer	2.5 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton	Flint Ridge	2.5 cm

	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton Hafted Scraper	Flint Ridge - Vanport	1.5 cm
	Late Archaic 5500-1500 B.C.	Side Notched Hafted Scraper	Upper Mercer	2.5 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton Hafted Scraper	Flint Ridge - Chert	2 cm
	Late Archaic 5500-1500 B.C.	Side Notched Hafted Scraper	Flint Ridge	2 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton Hafted Scraper	Flint Ridge - Chert	2 cm

	Late Archaic 5500-1500 B.C.	Side Notched	Upper Mercer	2.5 cm
	Early Archaic 7000 B.C.	St. Albans Bifurcate	Upper Mercer	2.5 cm
	Early Archaic 7000 B.C.		Upper Mercer	2.5 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton Hafted Scraper	Flint Ridge	2.5 cm
	Late Archaic - Early Woodland		Lower Mercer	3 cm

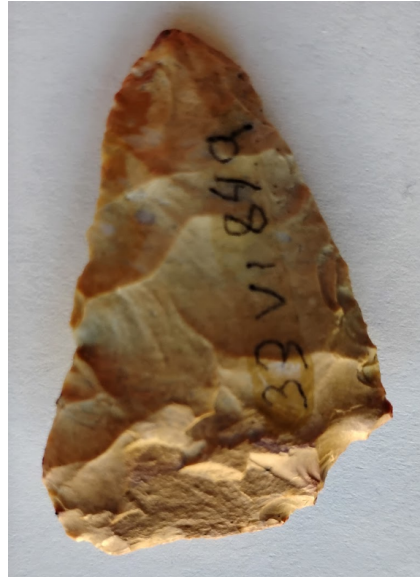
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton Hafted Scraper	Flint Ridge	2.5 cm
	Woodland 1000-1650 A.D.	Fort Ancient Triangle Point	Flint Ridge - Vanport	5 cm
	Late Archaic	Stemmed Point	Flint Ridge - Vanport	2 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton	Flint Ridge	3 cm
	Late Archaic - Woodland 500 B.C. - 200 A.D.	Adena Stemmed Point	Flint Ridge	4 cm

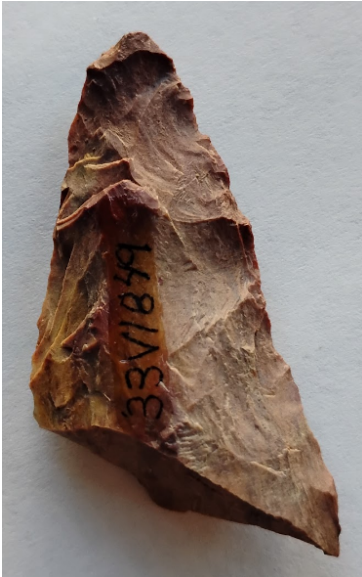
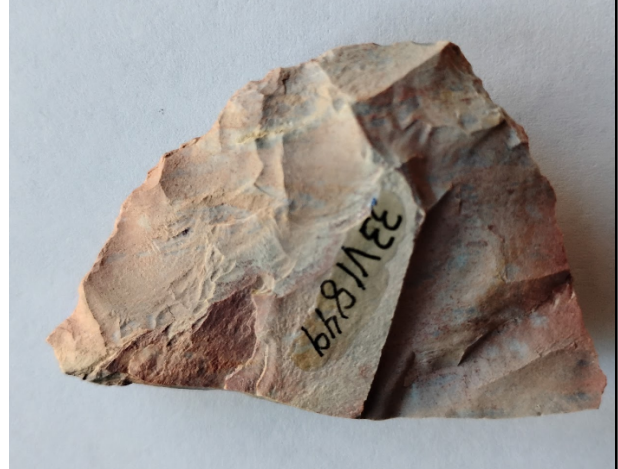
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton	Flint Ridge	3 cm
	Early Archaic 8000-5000 B.P.	Stanly Hafted Scraper	Upper Mercer	3.5 cm
	Late Archaic - Early Woodland 3000-2200 B.P.	Adena Stemmed Point	Flint Ridge - Vanport	5 cm
	Early Archaic 8200-5000 B.P.	Kanawha - Like	Flint Ridge - Vanport	4.5 cm
	Late Archaic 3000-1500 B.C.	Brewerton Hafted Scraper	Upper Mercer	1.5 cm

	Late Archaic - Early Woodland 3000-2200 B.P.	Adena Stemmed Point	Flint Ridge - Vanport	7 cm
	Mississippian - Historic 1000-400 B.P.	Fort Ancient Triangle Point	Upper Mercer	3 cm

Other Artifacts Found At The Spot









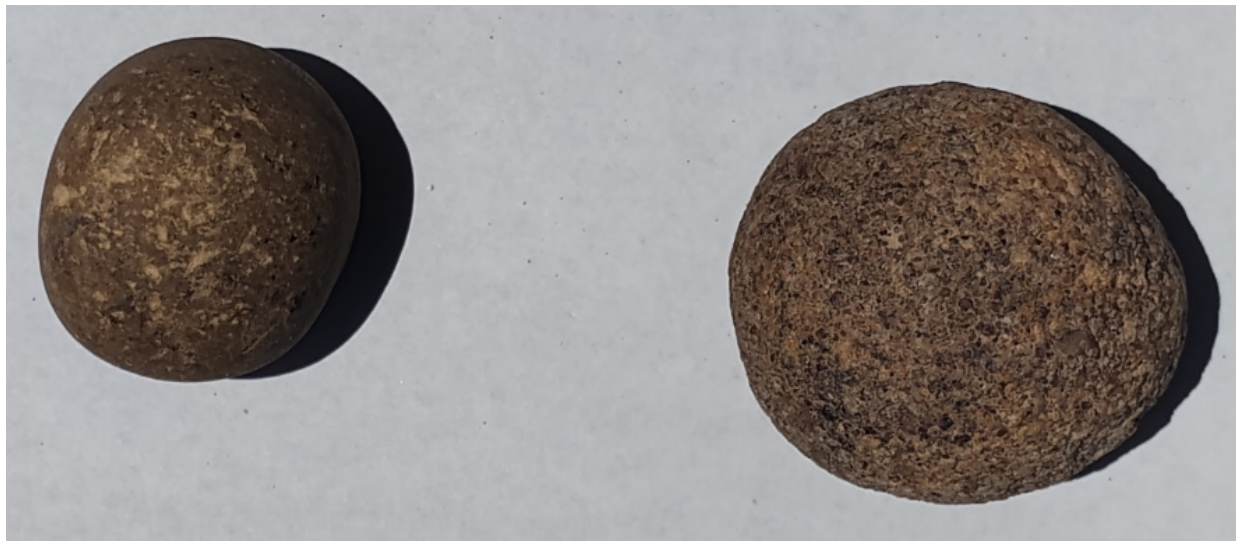








Ground Stone Artifacts Found At The Spot











Quarry Blanks And Trade Pieces









"The Spot" Team



Left to Right

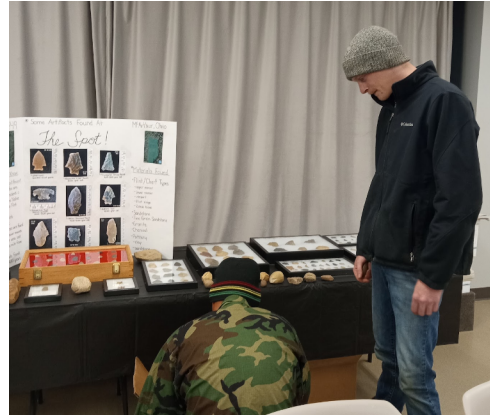
Back Row: Skyler Coleman and Tyler Klein

Front Row: Dr. Jonathan (JEB) E. Bowen, Mrs. Pam Bowen,
Katie Clemons, Michael Downard, and Michael X. Downard (Little Man)

Photos Of Us Teaching About The Spot



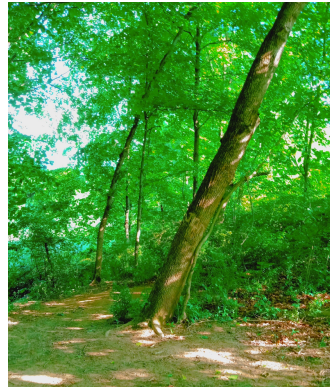
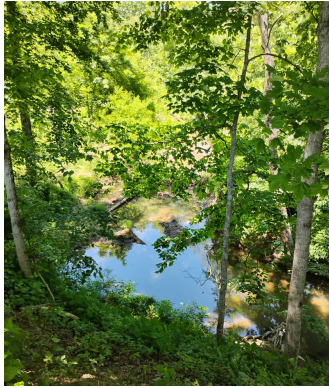








A Glimpse Of The Spot



(Photo Credit of The Spot goes to Little Man)

THE END.